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Senate

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by Rev. Joan Thirkettle from San Diego, CA, Salvation Army of San Diego.

PRAYER

The Reverend Joan Thirkettle, Salvation Army of San Diego, offered the following prayer:

The world new each day, Almighty God, we give You thanks and praise. The days, months, and years You number and sustain. Your wisdom invites this Senate to share the daily administration of this Your United States. Your movement is heard in the walk of the people. The grass blows, the mountains tower, the waters slap the shores, all echo, You among us. Come with Your residence casting Your knowledge and dreams into the debates and decisions made for "We, the People." Take the deliberations of this body fueled with questions, doubts, and varying degrees of what is best and right, and bring consensus of shared patriot leadership for the Republic. It is You, God, who reigns. Guide these Senators as they champion justice, liberty, and peace. Counsel them as they speak, debate, and struggle with the complexities of domestic and global concerns. The mantle of trust is given these persons by the people, Mighty God. Help them carry this heavy mantle in the long hours of work and decision-making. Bring each Senator a calm and a confidence of heart this day and in the days to come. Thank You that You have made them ambassadors of Your work. Travel with them in peace. May their work declare Your intentions, Eternal God. This we pray, Lord, in Your name. Amen.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from California.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you so much, Mr. President. I will just take a moment of the Senate's time to say how really thrilled I am to have heard the prayer given by the Reverend Joan Thirkettle this morning. I want to thank the Senate Chaplain, Dr. Ogilvie, for inviting her here today at my request.

To hear the sounds of a woman's voice coming from that particular place in the Senate Chamber is not that usual, but it is becoming more usual as we see more and more women go into this field.

I also say that it is very important because this month we do celebrate Women's History Month. So it is quite appropriate the Reverend Thirkettle spoke to us today.

There is one last point I want to make. She has come a long way from San Diego, CA, a beautiful part of the world. She spends her waking hours helping high school students, helping with family reeducation, helping with reunification, helping with job readiness, working with children, working with the Salvation Army in charge of shelters for youth and running the Christmas toy drive. So this is a woman who lives her beliefs.

I listened to her words today. She offers us, I think, some very good guidance. I thank her, and I thank Dr. Ogilvie.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CAMPBELL). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana [Mr. LUGAR] is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, Senator DOLE, let me say, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the farm bill conference report under the remaining time agreement reached yesterday.

Following that debate, the conference report will be set aside, and the Senate will begin 30 minutes of debate regarding the cloture motion with respect to the Kennedy amendment to the Presidio legislation.

Following that debate, the Senate will begin a vote on the adoption of the farm bill conference report, to be followed immediately by a vote on invoking cloture with respect to the Kennedy amendment. Additional rollcall votes are possible throughout today's session of the Senate.

AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2854, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2854) a bill to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses this report, signed by a majority of the conferees.

The Senate resumed consideration of the conference report.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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